

Roanoke, Town of  
(Roanoke Methodist Protestant Church)  
Roanoke  
Lewis County  
West Virginia

HABS No. WV-209-A

HABS  
WVA,  
21-ROAN,  
2 -

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
MID-ATLANTIC REGION NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19106

HABBS  
WVA  
21-ROAN,  
2-

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

ROANOKE, TOWN OF  
THE ROANOKE METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH

HABS No. WV-209-A

Location: Roanoke, West Virginia.

Elevation: ca. 1060'.

UTM References as given on the National Register of Historic Places Nomination form:

Zone: 17

Easting: 543900

Northing: 4309110

U.S.G.S. Map: Roanoke, West Virginia, 7.5' (1966 edition, photo revised 1979).

Present Owner (i.e., 1981): Trustees of the Methodist Protestant Church.

Present Occupant: Roanoke Methodist Protestant Church

Present Use: Church

Construction Date: ca. 1886

For project information and bibliography, see ROANOKE HABS No. WV-209.

For information on other structures in the Roanoke area, see HABS No.s WV-209-B -S.

The report from which this HABS documentation was prepared, along with field notes and over 90 hours of interview tapes, will be archived at the University of West Virginia, Morgantown, West Virginia.

### Historical Information:

The Roanoke Methodist Protestant Church was constructed on Lot 13 of the town plan which apparently was established by Joseph Hall (Gordon and Nell Hall 1981, pers. comm.). The church trustees purchased adjoining lots 13 and 14 from Hall in late 1883, and by 14 July 1886, the congregation had dedicated their two story church.

To judge from the architectural similarity that this church displays both to the Seventh Day Baptist Church ca. 1 mile outside Roanoke and to the Round Bottom Church on the Brownsville Road (old Rohrbaugh Siding and/or River Road), it seems that the Methodist parishioners built their place of worship in a popular vernacular style.

The church was constructed by the parishioners (Blaine Rollyson, Jr. 1981, pers. comm.) using poplar (Liriodendron sp.) timbers and siding. The original building is said to have been rough-hewn and plain in appearance with heavy wooden floors and handmade pews (painted off-white) that were near and surrounded two pot-bellied stoves; the seats closest to the stoves are said to have been reserved for the use of the church trustees (Gordon and Nell Hall 1981, pers. comm.). A dais extended across the width of the front of the church; a chair on one side and a screen on the other separated an area reserved for Sunday school classes. In the center of the pulpit area was a lectern and a simple altar, the latter merely a board supported on twin posts. There were no crosses or icons. The floor at the front of the church was carpeted, but the two side aisles were bare, rough and unpainted. Originally, in the rear of the sanctuary two doors (one serving each of the aisles) opened into a small vestibule where parishioners could hang coats, caps and other items of winter clothing. The church entrance consisted of a single large but plain door (Bertha Brinkley 1981, pers. comm.).

In the late 1950s the church was remodeled. Without incurring any major debts, the parishioners installed new flooring and bought both new pews and a gas furnace. A new pulpit was donated by the Roanoke Farm Women's Club; new Sunday school rooms were built where the original vestibule had been. To pay for the remodeling, private donations in cash and kind provided the bulk of the capital, and in addition, the Farm Women's Club raffled quilts (Bertha Brinkley 1981, pers. comm.).

Together with this period of remodeling, parishioner informants recalled the ministry of Lloyd Miller as a particularly important time for the church. Miller served the congregation--and three other churches--for over 15 years following World War II. In addition to Roanoke, Miller's "circuit" included Oil Creek, Peterson Siding and Crawford. Miller and his family lived in the Roanoke parsonage adjacent to the church, and he became a prominent member of the community. He helped to bring in hay and both hunted and fished with members of the church. Moreover, he belonged to the Odd Fellows who attended meetings at the local Odd Fellows Lodge.

Due to his other obligations, Miller could lead Sunday services at Roanoke only once a month. After he left Roanoke, the church ordinarily was served by student

TABLE

## Ownership of Tract 1507

| Grantor                                  | Grantee   | Date of Transaction | Cost       | Acreage      | Reference                                 | Comments |
|--|---|---------------------|------------|--------------|---|----------|
| Joseph Hall &<br>Mary E. Hall (wife)     | Samuel B. Smith, et al.<br>(Trustees of the Methodist<br>Protestant Church) | 21 Nov. 1883        | \$225.00   | Lots 13 & 14 | <u>Lewis County<br/>Deed Book 17: 311</u> |          |
| Michael G. Bush &<br>Amelia Bush (wife)  | Joseph Hall   | 20 Sept. 1847       | \$1,100.00 | 86           | <u>Lewis County<br/>Deed Book N: 59</u>   |          |
| John Sprigg &<br>Elizabeth Sprigg (wife) | Michael Bush  | 23 Dec. 1825        | \$1,200.00 | 91           | <u>Lewis County<br/>Deed Book C: 223</u>  |          |

TABLE  
Tax Record for Tract 1507

| Name            | Year                    | Land                              | Value per Acre | Value of Land | Value of Improvement | Total Value | Comments             |
|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| John Sprigg     | 1817                    | 310 acres Sand Fork/<br>West Fork | \$3.50         |               |                      | \$155.00    |                      |
|                 | *1818<br>1819           | 310 acres Sand Fork/<br>West Fork | \$3.50         |               | \$150.00             | \$400.00    |                      |
|                 | 1820-1823               | 310 acres Sand Fork/<br>West Fork | \$3.50         |               | \$131.25             | \$1,085.00  |                      |
|                 | 1824-1826               | 310 acres Sand Fork/<br>West Fork | \$3.50         |               |                      | \$1,085.00  |                      |
| Michael G. Bush | 1827                    | 20 acres West Fork                | \$3.50         |               |                      | \$70.00     | From John Sprigg     |
|                 | 1828-1833<br>1834       | 91 acres West Fork                | \$3.70         |               | \$200.20             | \$318.70    |                      |
|                 | *1835                   | 91 acres West Fork                | \$3.70         |               |                      | \$318.70    |                      |
|                 | 1836-1839<br>1840-1847  | 91 acres West Fork                | \$3.70         |               |                      | \$318.70    |                      |
| Joseph Hall     | 1848                    | 86 acres West Fork                | \$10.00        |               |                      | \$860.00    | From Michael G. Bush |
|                 | 1849                    | 86 acres West Fork                | \$10.00        |               |                      | \$860.00    |                      |
|                 | *1850                   | 86 acres West Fork                | \$10.00        |               |                      | \$860.00    |                      |
|                 | 1851                    | 86 acres West Fork                | \$10.00        |               |                      | \$860.00    |                      |
|                 | *1852-1853              | 85 acres West Fork                | \$10.00        |               |                      | \$850.00    |                      |
|                 | 1854-1855               | 85 acres West Fork                | \$11.00        |               | \$330.00             | \$850.00    |                      |
|                 | 1856                    | 85 acres West Fork                | \$13.00        |               | \$600.00             | \$1,105.00  |                      |
|                 | 1857-1858               | 85 acres West Fork                | \$13.00        |               |                      | \$1,105.00  |                      |
|                 | *1859                   | 85 acres West Fork                | \$13.00        |               | \$600.00             | \$1,105.00  |                      |
|                 | 1860                    | 85 acres West Fork                | \$13.00        |               |                      | \$1,105.00  |                      |
|                 | *1861                   | 85 acres West Fork                | \$13.00        |               | \$600.00             | \$1,105.00  |                      |
|                 | 1862-1867<br>*1868-1869 | 85 acres West Fork                | \$13.00        |               | \$600.00             | \$1,105.00  |                      |
|                 | 1870-1872               | 85 acres West Fork                | \$13.00        |               | \$600.00             | \$1,105.00  |                      |
|                 | 1873-1875               | 85 acres West Fork                | \$13.00        |               | \$400.00             | \$1,105.00  |                      |

Table (cont.)

| Name                | Year      | Land                            | Value per Acre | Value of Land | Value of Improvement | Total Value | Comments  |
|---------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------------|-------------|---|
| Joseph Hall (cont.) | 1876      | 81 acres R-10; P-8 West Fork    | \$14.30        |               |                      | \$1,160.00  | Sold 4 acres to Mitchell/Godfrey. R-10; P-8 may refer to 10 rods, 8 poles |
|                     | 1877-1880 | 81 acres R-10; P-8 West Fork    | \$14.30        |               |                      | \$1,160.00  |   |
|                     | 1881-1882 | 81 acres R-10; P-8 West Fork    | \$13.00        |               |                      | \$1,063.00  |   |
|                     | 1883      | 81 <sup>3</sup> acres West Fork | \$13.80        |               | \$300.00             | \$1,124.00  | 81 <sup>3</sup> may be 81 1/3 acres                                       |
|                     | 1884      | 80 1/2 acres West Fork          | \$13.80        |               | \$300.00             | \$1,110.00  |   |
|                     | **1885    |                                 |                |               |                      |             |   |

\*Records Missing.

\*\*After purchase of the lots by the church they were no longer taxed.

ministers from Buckhannon, West Virginia, who had little time for visiting and who apparently exerted little influence on the community.

Both its location and its function made the Roanoke Methodist Protestant Church perhaps the most significant public building in Roanoke. At its peak in the 1920s the church had approximately 100 contributing members. Every Sunday morning at 10:00 A.M. the church bell rang--a sound heard by all of Roanoke's citizens, most of whom were Methodists. Although church services were held only once or twice a month, Sunday school met each week from 10:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. Sunday school was perhaps the most vital component in the organizational life of the church. As late as 1950, when the dynamic Gilbert Bowyers (who died in 1951, see ROANOKE HABS No. WV-209) still directed the church school activities, it boasted 50 attending members. Prayer meetings each Wednesday evening complimented the Sunday school and Sunday church service. Above and beyond the usual formal gatherings, religious revivals were held each winter, and on occasion these lasted for weeks. Special Christmas programs also were a long-time tradition of the congregation. Before the automobile came to the tiny village, people rode buggies to church; during services, surreys lined the Weston and Gauley Bridge Turnpike and County Route 19/24, the two major roads leading to the church.

In addition to its primary religious purpose, the Roanoke Methodist Protestant Church for years was a vital center of Roanoke's social life. The social function of the church must be stressed, for while all of the respondents interviewed in the course of the preparation of this report emphasized the primacy of the church as a religious institution, none described Roanoke's people as being particularly "religious" in the overt sense of the word. Prior to the greater physical mobility afforded by the invention and widespread availability of the automobile, the church as a center of community life offered a principal release from the tedium of the agrarian yearly schedule. Box socials and other popular gatherings were held there.

Although church attendance (particularly among women) remained relatively strong well into the 20th century, attendance at services declined somewhat after U.S. Route 19 was paved in the 1920s and the automobile became a common. The church's social prominence also waned. Nevertheless, a few faithful still attended Sunday services during the field phase of the present investigation in 1981. The reluctance of these people to change their church affiliation in the face of the demise of Roanoke as a viable community underscores both the religious and social importance attached to the church's physical and emotive attributes. (NOTE: As a denomination, the Methodist Protestant Church was established in 1828. This name was used until May 10, 1939 when the Methodist Protestant Church, the Methodist Episcopal Church South and the Methodist Episcopal Church joined to become the Methodist Church. The name changed again in 1968 to the United Methodist Church (United Methodist Church 1972: 10; 17, n. 1). To avoid confusion, the Roanoke church has been referred to throughout as the Roanoke Methodist Protestant Church.)

#### ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION:

General Description: The Roanoke Methodist Protestant Church is a two story rectangular frame (clapboard siding) structure with a gable roof; lancet windows are found on the southwest and northeast elevations; the church is surmounted by a belfrey.

Exterior Description:

Overall Dimensions: 32'4" x 54'6 1/2".

Foundation: This is composed of continuous dry-laid sandstone blocks partially covered with white-painted hardboard. The foundation raises the structure approximately 12" above ground level.

Walls: The walls are composed of 4"-4 1/4" clapboards and corner boards, both of which are attached with cut nails and are painted white; a recent addition, which was built to extend the chancel area, is sided with 5" German cove siding painted white. The lancet windows on the southwest and northeast elevations originally had shutters; several pintles still exist adjacent to the window surround.

The belfrey is sided with clapboards and corner boards painted white.

Framing: This is composed of light timber framing (2" x 4" studs) on 2' centers.

Porch: A 4'6" deep x 6'4 1/2" wide x 7" thick sandstone slab forms a porch at the front (southeast) of the structure; it is covered by a suspended aluminum awning.

Chimneys: A sheet metal furnace flue pipe projects through the southwest roof slope toward the front of the structure.

Roof: The roof is a medium-pitch gable variety covered with 10" on center raised seam sheet metal roofing; the 3" x 6" rafters on 2' centers are set into a heavy ridgeboard; eaves and raking trim consist of boxed cornice with frieze board; the pyramidal roof of the square belfrey is covered with 10" on center raised seam sheet metal roofing and has a boxed cornice with frieze board trim.

Interior Description: Room 1 (Room numbers are keyed to floor plans on pages 22-23)

Function: Sunday school classes.

Dimensions: 8'7" x 13'4"; 7'5 1/4" ceiling.

Wallcovering: 5" single-beaded boards; painted pale blue.

Floorcovering: 2 1/4" tongue and groove boards; varnished.

Ceiling: 5 1/4" "V"-grooved knotty pine boards; molding around edges of room; varnished.

Baseboard: 4 1/2" plain board; quarter round shoe; varnished.

Heating: 3 1/2" x 1'1 1/4" floor register near northeast wall.

Fireplace: none.

Plumbing: none.

Lighting and Electricity: central ceiling fixture; switch on northeast wall adjacent to door; duplex outlet on northeast wall.

Interior Description: Room 2

Function: narthex.

Dimensions: 6' x 7'5 1/4"; 7'5" ceiling.

Wallcovering: 4"-5" single-beaded boards; painted pale blue.

Floorcovering: 2 1/4" tongue and groove boards; varnished.

Ceiling: 3 1/2"-4" single-beaded boards; molding around the edges of the room; painted pale blue.

Baseboard: 4 1/2" plain board; quarter round shoe; varnished.

Heating: 3 1/2" x 1'1 1/4" floor register near southwest wall.

Fireplace: none.

Plumbing: none.



TABLE  
Tract 1507 (church): Door Details

| Position*          | Opening   | Style                    | Hinge                    | Latch/Lock            | Interior Surround Trim | Exterior Surround Trim | Threshold |
|--------------------|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-----------|
| Room 1 to Closet   | 2' x 6'7"   | hollow core              | 3 1/2" pin butt (modern) | mortise lock (modern) | 4 1/2" plain boards    | 4 1/2" plain boards    | no        |
| Room 1 to Room 4   | 2'8" x 6'7 1/2"   | hollow core              | 3 1/2" pin butt (modern) | mortise lock (modern) | 4 1/2" plain boards    | 4 1/2" plain boards    | no        |
| Room 4 to Stairs   | 2'11 1/2" x 6' 3/4" (bottom of door is top of first step) | vinyl accordion-pleated  | --                       | --                    | --                     | --                     | no        |
| Room 2 to Room 4   | paired 2'6" x 6'8 1/2"                                    | double swinging (modern) | swinging door pivots     | None                  | 4 1/2" plain boards    | 4 1/2" plain boards    | no        |
| Room 2 to Exterior | paired 2'6" x 6'9 1/2"                                    | 2-4 panel                | 3" pin butt (modern)     | mortise lock (modern) | 4 1/2" plain boards    | 4 1/2" plain boards    | yes       |
| Room 2 to Room 3   | 2'8" x 6'8"   | hollow core              | 3" butt (modern)         | mortise lock (modern) | 4 1/2" plain boards    | 4 1/2" plain boards    | no        |
| Room 3 to Room 6   | 2'8" x 6'8"   | hollow core              | 3 1/2" pin butt (modern) | mortise lock (modern) | 3" ranch mold          | 3" ranch mold          | no        |

\*For exact position, refer to Figures

TABLE

Tract 1507 (church): Window Details

| Position*             | Style                    | Opening    | Size of Pane                      | Number of Panes | Type of Sill | Interior Surround Trim | Exterior Surround Trim |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>SOUTHEAST WALL</b> |                          |            |                                   |                 |              |                        |                        |
| First Floor           |                          |            |                                   |                 |              |                        |                        |
| Left to right         | double hung              | 28" x 53"  | 24" x 24 1/8"                     | 1/1             | slip         | 4 1/2" plain boards    | 3 3/8" plain boards    |
|                       | fixed frame arch transom | 48" x 54"  | irregular                         | 10              | slip         | 4 1/2" plain boards    | 3 3/8" plain boards    |
|                       | double hung              | 28" x 53"  | 24" x 24 1/8"                     | 1/1             | slip         | 4 1/2" plain boards    | 3 3/8" plain boards    |
| <b>Second Floor</b>   |                          |            |                                   |                 |              |                        |                        |
| Left to right         | double hung              | 28" x 53"  | 24" x 24 1/8"                     | 1/1             | slip         | 4 1/2" plain boards    | 3 3/8" plain boards    |
|                       | fixed frame arch         | 48" x 54"  | irregular                         | 10              | slip         | 4 1/2" plain boards    | 3 3/8" plain boards    |
|                       | double hung              | 28" x 53"  | 24" x 24 1/8"                     | 1/1             | slip         | 4 1/2" plain boards    | 3 3/8" plain boards    |
| <b>SOUTHWEST WALL</b> |                          |            |                                   |                 |              |                        |                        |
| First Floor           |                          |            |                                   |                 |              |                        |                        |
| Left to right         | double hung (lancet)     | 34" x 122" | 14" x 30" bottom<br>14" x 24" top | 4/4             | slip         | 5 1/4" mold            | 4 1/2" plain boards    |
|                       | double hung (lancet)     | 34" x 122" | 14" x 30" bottom<br>14" x 24" top | 4/4             | slip         | 5 1/4" mold            | 4 1/2" plain boards    |
|                       | double hung (lancet)     | 34" x 122" | 14" x 30" bottom<br>14" x 24" top | 4/4             | slip         | 5 1/4" mold            | 4 1/2" plain boards    |
|                       | double hung              | 36" x 53"  | 24" x 32"                         | 1/1             | slip         | 4 1/2" plain boards    | 3 3/8" plain boards    |

Table (cont.)

| Position*              | Style                | Opening    | Size of Pane                      | Number of Panes | Type of Sill | Interior Surround Trim | Exterior Surround Trim |
|------------------------|----------------------|------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| SOUTHWEST WALL (cont.) |                      |            |                                   |                 |              |                        |                        |
| Second Floor           |                      |            |                                   |                 |              |                        |                        |
| Left to right          | double hung          | 36" x 53"  | 24" x 32"                         | 1/1             | slip         | 4 1/2" plain boards    | 3 3/8" plain boards    |
| NORTHWEST WALL         |                      |            |                                   |                 |              |                        |                        |
| Left to right          | double hung          | 28" x 37"  | 16" x 24"                         | 1/1             | slip         | 4 1/2" mold            | 3 1/2" plain boards    |
|                        | double hung          | 28" x 37"  | 16" x 24"                         | 1/1             | slip         | 4 1/2" mold            | 3 1/2" plain boards    |
| NORTHEAST WALL         |                      |            |                                   |                 |              |                        |                        |
| First Floor            |                      |            |                                   |                 |              |                        |                        |
| Left to right          | double hung          | 36" x 53"  | 24" x 32"                         | 1/1             | slip         | 4 1/2" plain boards    | 3 3/8" plain boards    |
|                        | double hung (lancet) | 34" x 122" | 14" x 30" bottom<br>14" x 24" top | 4/4             | slip         | 5 1/4" mold            | 4 1/2" plain boards    |
|                        | double hung (lancet) | 34" x 122" | 14" x 30" bottom<br>14" x 24" top | 4/4             | slip         | 5 1/4" mold            | 4 1/2" plain boards    |
|                        | double hung (lancet) | 34" x 122" | 14" x 30" bottom<br>14" x 24" top | 4/4             | slip         | 5 1/4" mold            | 4 1/2" plain boards    |
| Second Floor           |                      |            |                                   |                 |              |                        |                        |
| Left to right          | double hung          | 36" x 53"  | 24" x 32"                         | 1/1             | slip         | 4 1/2" plain boards    | 3 3/8" plain boards    |

\*For exact positions, refer to Figures

Lighting and Electricity: central ceiling fixture; switch on northeast wall adjacent to the exterior door; additional switch at same location for a light mounted on the exterior wall adjacent to the door.

Interior Description: Room 3

Function: Sunday school room.

Dimensions: 12'2" x 13'5"; 7'5" ceiling.

Wallcovering: 5" single-beaded boards; painted pale blue.

Floorcovering: 2 1/4" tongue and groove boards; varnished.

Ceiling: 5 1/4" "V"-grooved knotty pine boards (modern); molding around edges of room; varnished.

Baseboard: 4 1/2" plain board; quarter round shoe; varnished.

Heating: 3 1/2" x 1' 1 1/4" floor register near southwest wall; furnace on north side of northwest wall.

Fireplace: none.

Plumbing: none.

Lighting and Electricity: central ceiling fixture with switch on northeast wall adjacent to door.

Interior Description: Room 4

Function: nave and chancel.

Dimensions: 31'1" x 42'1"; 16'1" ceiling.

Wallcovering: 4"-5" single-beaded horizontal boards in nave painted pale blue; altar railing composed of 5"-9" varnished knotty pine boards; addition at northwest end covered with 5"-9" varnished knotty pine boards.

Floorcovering: 2 1/4" tongue and groove boards; varnished.

Ceiling: 4"-5" single-beaded and double-beaded boards (randomly mixed); painted pale blue.

Baseboard: 4 1/2" plain board; quarter round shoe; varnished.

Heating: 1'6" wide x 1'2" high registers on southeast and southwest walls about 6" above floor; three evenly spaced floor registers along southwest and northeast walls between walls and pews.

Fireplace: none.

Plumbing: none.

Lighting and Electricity: five ceiling fixtures hang from chains; switches on northeast wall in Room 2; ceiling floodlight above minister's chair in chancel.

Stairway: at rear of nave is stairway to a partially open balcony; 12 varnished steps 35 1/2" wide x 11 1/4" tread x 7" rise plus a 7 3/4" riser to a 35 1/2" x 43" long landing; at the landing and at a right angle to the main steps, there is an additional rise of 7" to both Rooms 5 and 6.

Other: The chancel is a 10'11" x 31'1" area raised 2' above the floor ; it is reached by ascending either of two sets of carpet-covered steps located to the right and left of the pulpit which is at the front center of the chancel; steps have a 33" width x 11" tread x 8 1/2" rise and 7 1/4" riser; the chancel is carpeted.

Interior Description: (Room 5)

Function: Unknown.

Dimensions: 12'2" x 13'8 1/2"; 7'7 1/2" ceiling.

Wallcovering: 5"-9" knotty pine boards; varnished.

Floorcovering: 2 1/4" tongue and groove boards; varnished.

Ceiling: 5 1/4" "V"-grooved knotty pine boards; varnished; opening to attic in east corner of room.

Baseboard: 4 1/2" plain board; quarter round shoe; varnished.

Heating: none.

Fireplace: none.

Plumbing: none.

Lighting and Electricity: central ceiling fixture; switch on southeast wall near head of stairway.

Other: northwest wall is partially open (top 4'10") so area can serve as a balcony; opening can be closed with a vinyl accordin-pleated door.

#### Interior Description: Room 6

Function: Unknown.

Dimensions: 13'8" x 18'5"; 7'8" ceiling.

Wallcovering: 5"-9" knotty pine boards; varnished.

Floorcovering: 2 1/4" varnished tongue and groove boards.

Ceiling: 5 1/4" "V"-grooved knotty pine boards; molding around edges of room; varnished.

Baseboard: 4 1/2" plain board; quarter round shoe; varnished.

Heating: none.

Fireplace: none.

Plumbing: none.

Lighting and Electricity: central ceiling fixture; switch on northeast wall adjacent to door; duplex outlet on northeast wall.

Other: northwest wall is partially open (top 4'10") so area can serve as a balcony; opening can be closed with a vinyl accordin-pleated door.

#### Site:

General Setting and Orientation: The Roanoke Methodist Protestant Church faces southeast toward West Virginia County Route 23/5 (the old Weston and Gauley Bridge Turnpike) on a corner lot (corner of County Route 23/5 and County Route 19/24); it sits back from road 23/5 ca. 45'; large sandstone flagstones (3'-3'10" x 3'-6'8") serve as a walkway from the road to the church entrance; sandstone flagstones likewise form a walkway from the church entrance to the rear door of the church parsonage which is situated southwest of the church; the parsonage is on the same U.S. Army Corps of Engineers tract and is further discussed below.

Historic Landscape Design: Five large maple (Acer sp.) trees shade the front lawn of the church; another large maple tree as well as one small black cherry (Prunus serotina) tree shade the northeast side; two upright junipers (Juniperus sp.) grow to the left and right of the entrance.

Outbuilding: A modern gable-roofed, concrete block construction restroom structure is situated at the west rear corner of the church.



M. P. Church at Roanoke taken in fall of 1903 by J. A. Smith.

The Roanoke Methodist Protestant Church, ca. 1903, southeast and northeast elevations. Photograph appeared in the 17 March 1954 issue of the Weston Independent (Alta Anderson Photograph Collection).



The Roanoke Methodist Protestant Church in 1981. Photo shows southeast elevation. Note junipers (Juniperus sp.) flanking the entrance and the sandstone flagstone walkway in the foreground.



Perspective control photograph of the southeast elevation of the Roanoke Methodist Protestant Church in 1981. Note suspended aluminum awning.



Perspective control photograph of the southeast and southwest elevations of the Roanoke Methodist Protestant Church in 1981.

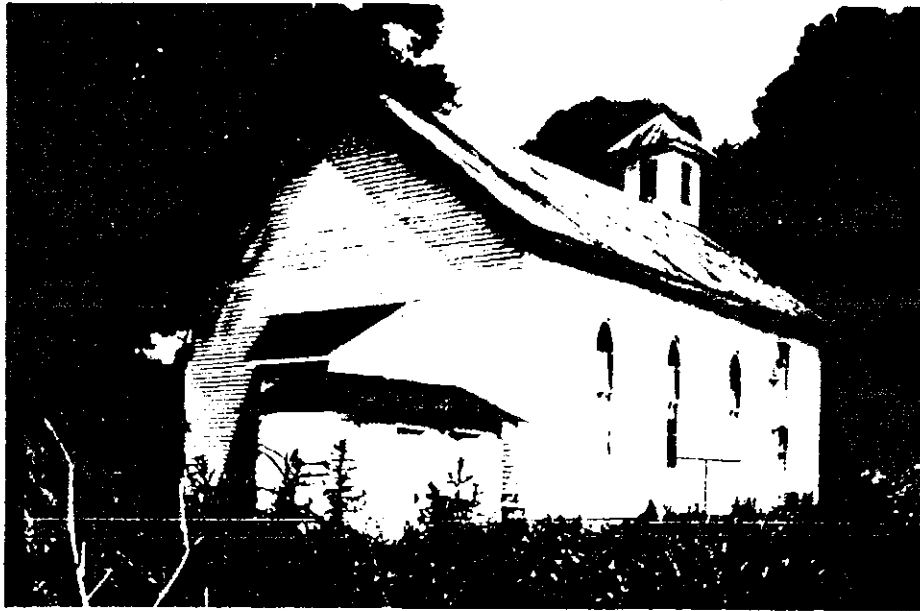


The Roanoke Methodist Protestant Church, southwest elevation in 1981. The modern concrete block structure to the rear of the church contains restrooms. The sheet metal flue pipe in the church furnace can be seen immediately to the left of the rectangular double hung sash windows.



Perspective control photograph of the southwest elevation of the Roanoke Methodist Protestant Church in 1981. Note belfrey and lancet windows.





Perspective control photograph of the northwest and southwest elevations of the Roanoke Methodist Protestant Church in 1981. Note the concrete block privy.



Perspective control photograph of the northwest elevation of the Roanoke Methodist Protestant Church in 1981. The apse constructed along this elevation was built in the 1950s as part of a general remodeling program. Note concrete block privy at right.



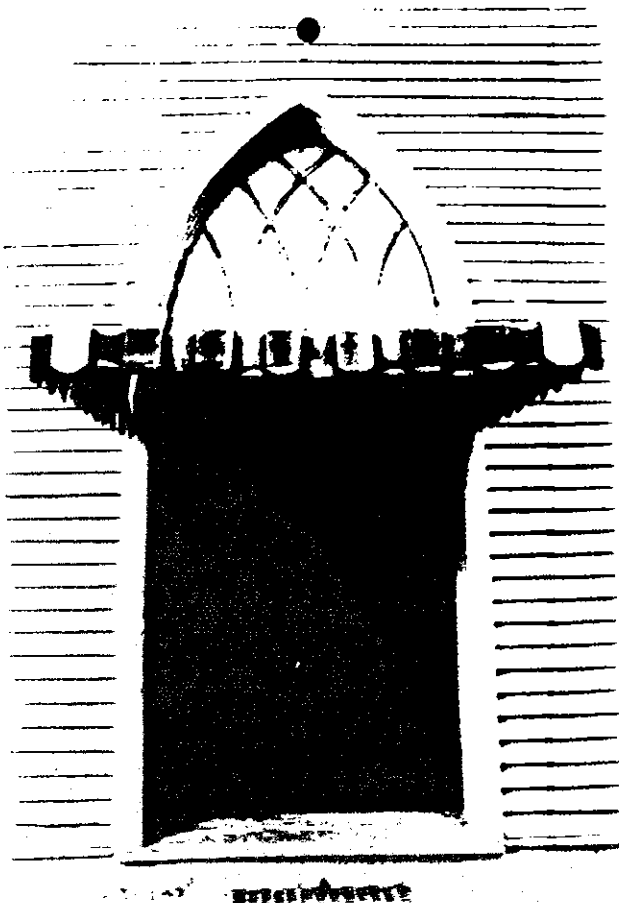
Perspective control photograph of the northwest and northeast elevations of the Roanoke Methodist Protestant Church in 1981. Note the large maple (Acer sp.) tree to the right of the structure.



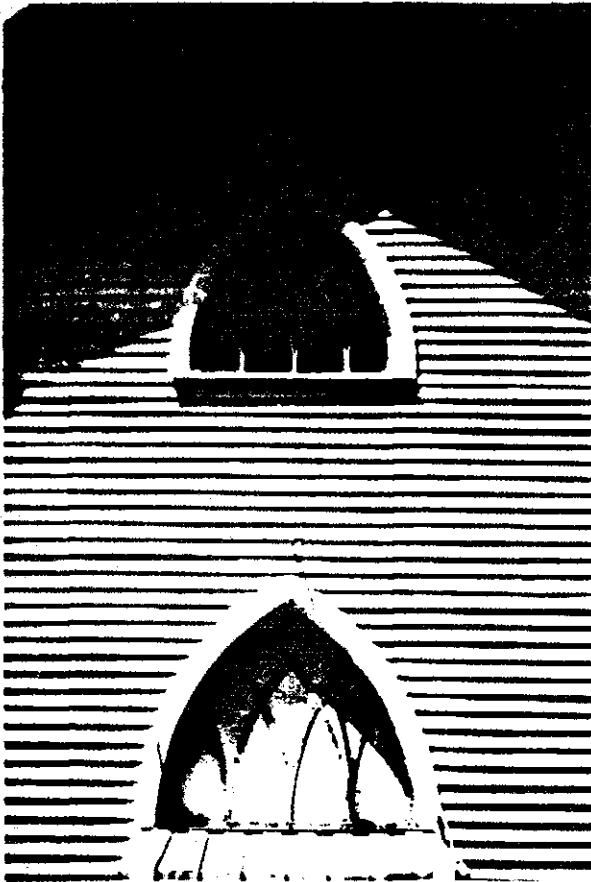
Perspective control photograph of the northeast elevation of the Roanoke Methodist Protestant Church in 1981.



Perspective control photograph of the northeast and southeast elevations of the Roanoke Methodist Protestant Church in 1981.

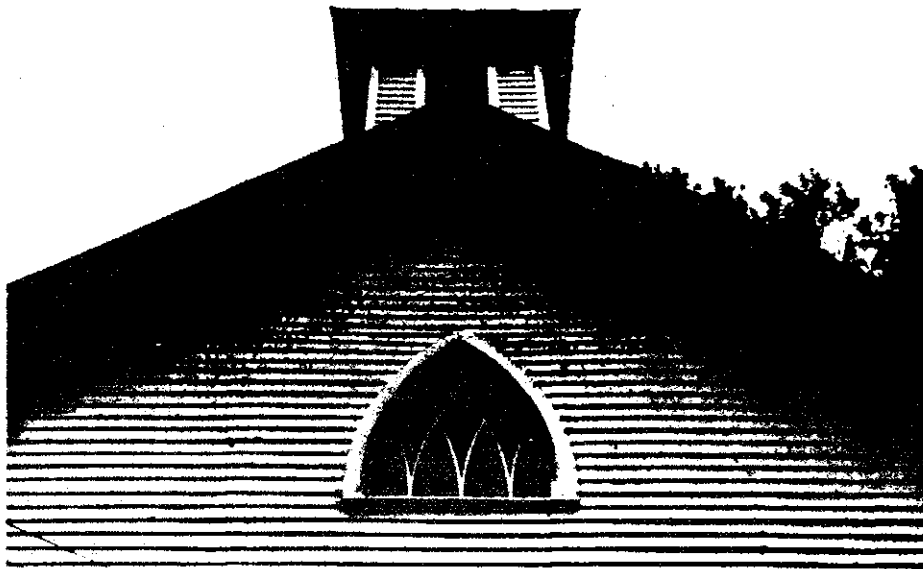


The entrance to the Roanoke Methodist Protestant Church in the southeast elevation in 1981. Note the suspended aluminum awning as well as the arch transom.

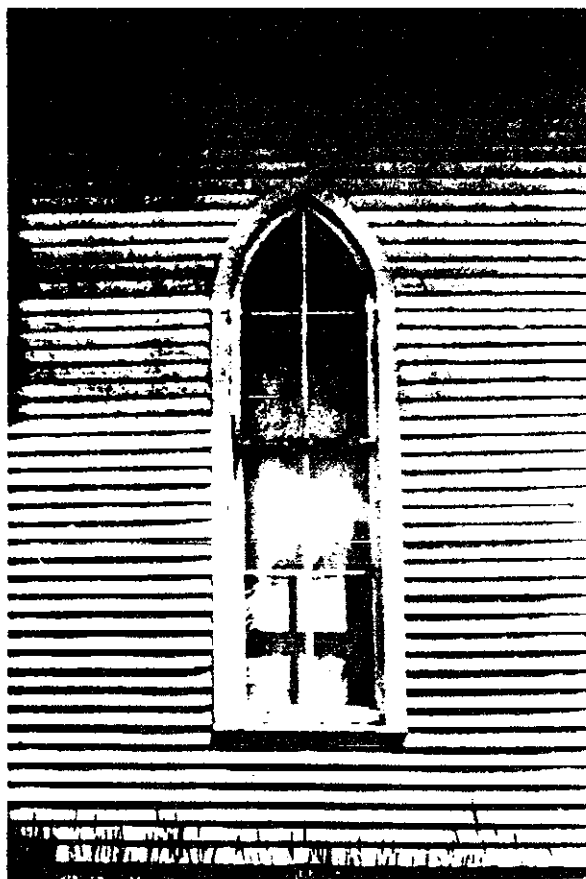


Close-up of the arch transom and arch window in the southeast elevation of the Roanoke Methodist Protestant Church in 1981.

Note the suspended aluminum awning over the entrance to the narthex.



The arch window and belfrey in the southeast elevation of the Roanoke Methodist Protestant Church in 1981.



Close-up of lancet window in the southwest elevation of the Roanoke Methodist Protestant Church in 1981.



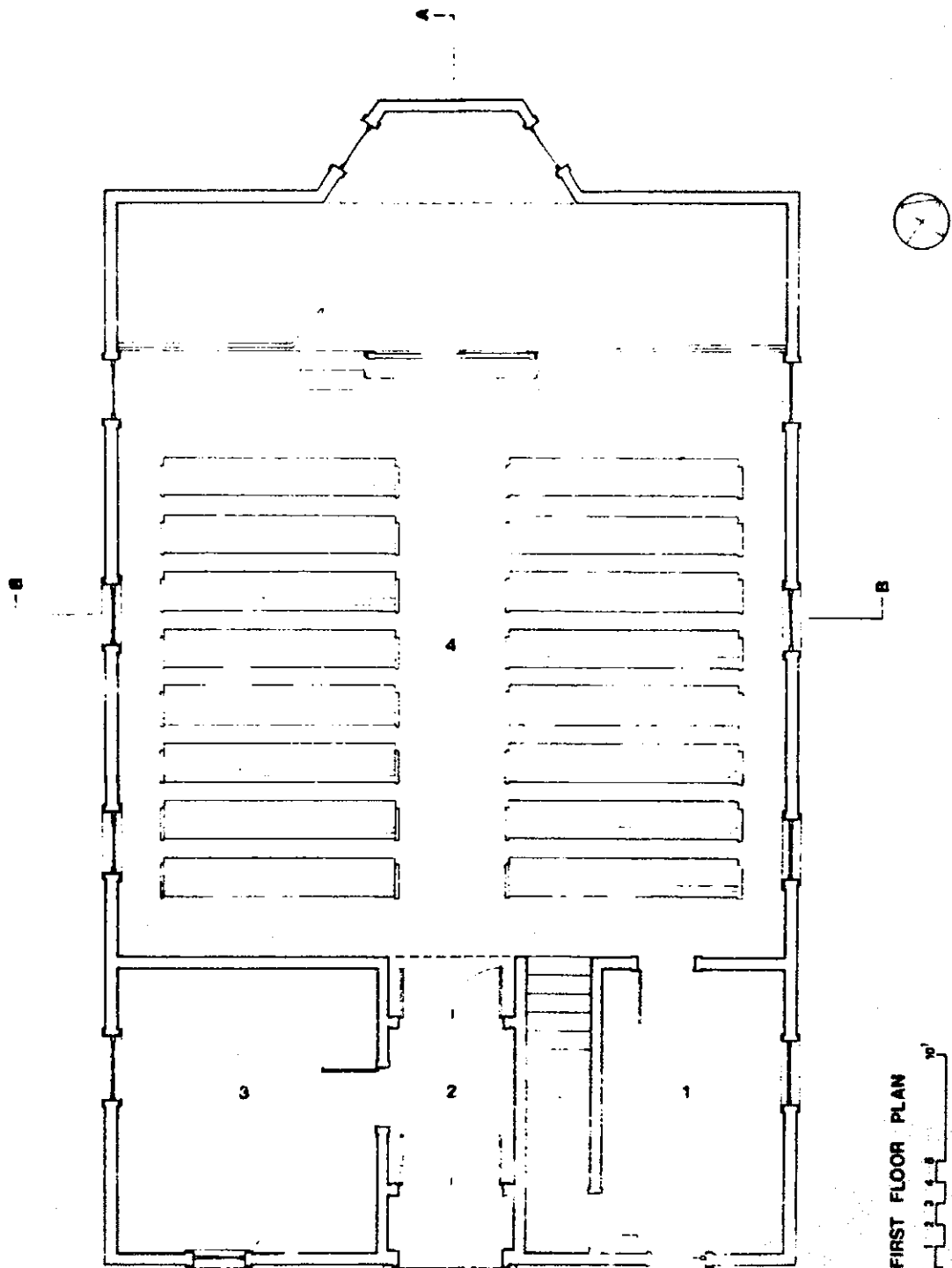
Close-up of northeast elevation shutter pintle typical of those found on all of the lancet windows in the Roanoke Methodist Protestant Church.



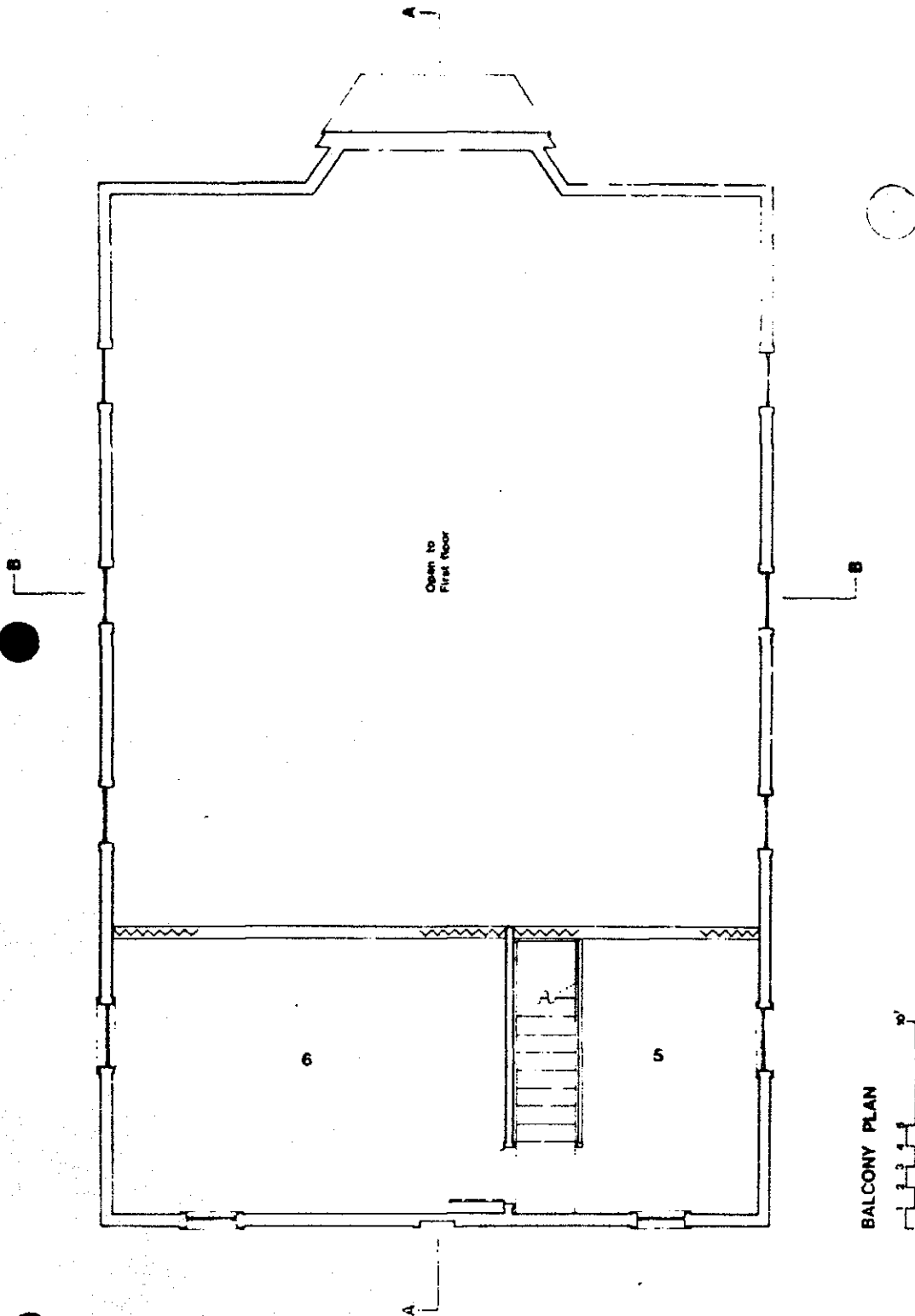
The nave of the Roanoke Methodist Protestant Church in 1981. The interior of the church was remodeled extensively in the 1950s. Note the lancet windows in the northeast elevation as well as the lighting fixtures in the ceiling.



The nave and chancel area of the Roanoke Methodist Protestant Church in 1981.

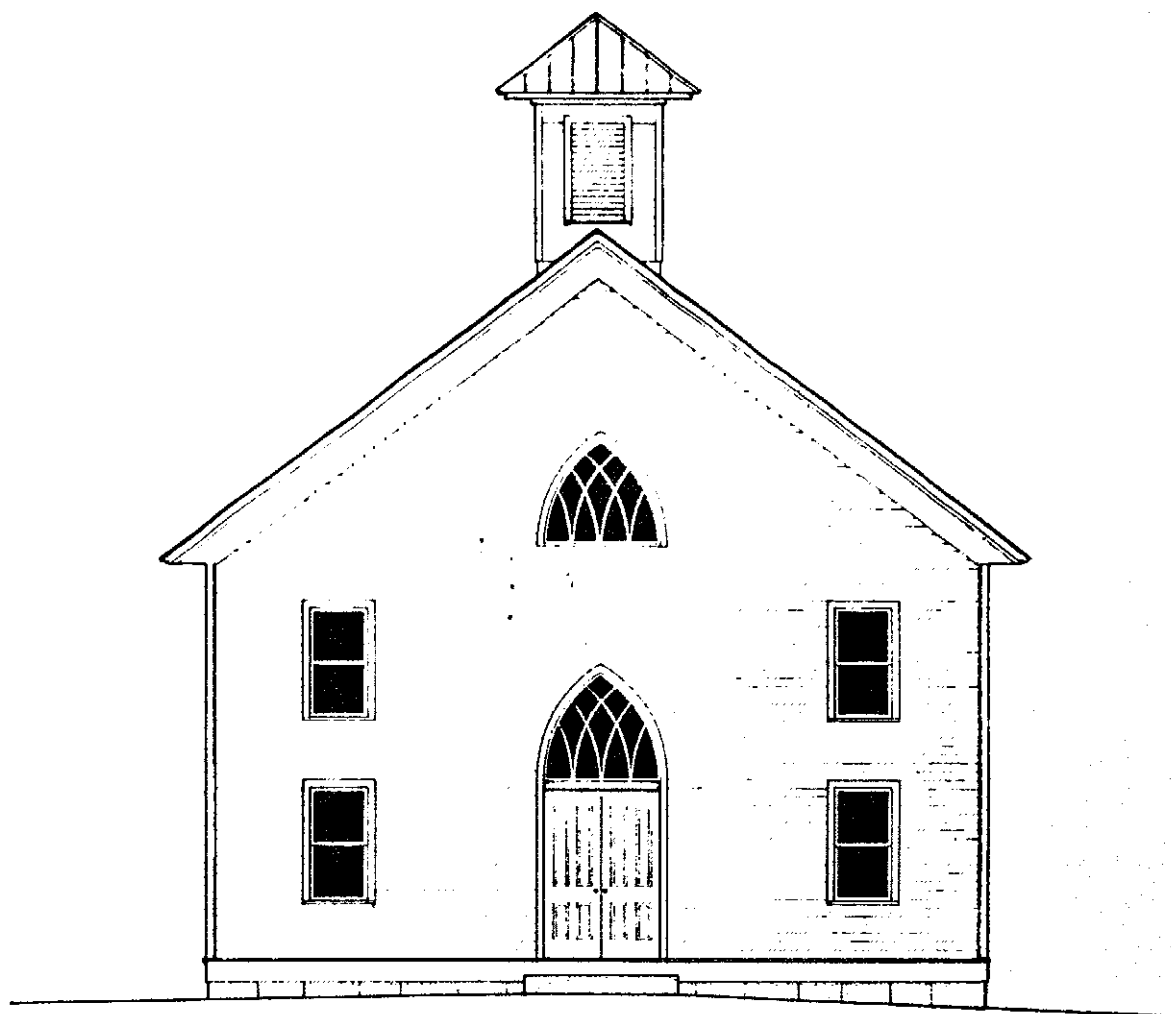


First floor plan of the Roanoke Methodist Protestant Church.



Second floor plan of the Roanoke Methodist Protesant Church.

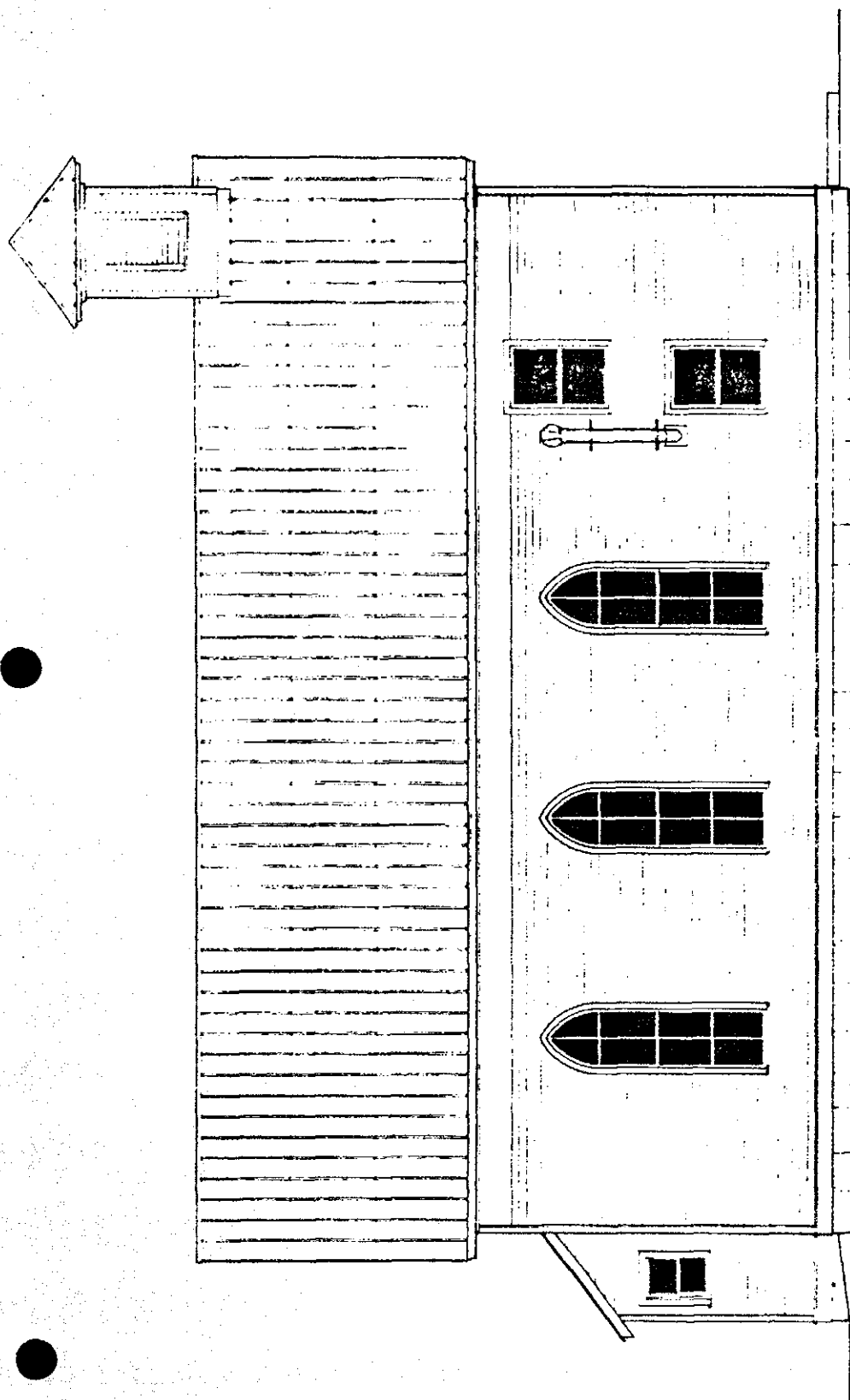




SOUTHEAST ELEVATION



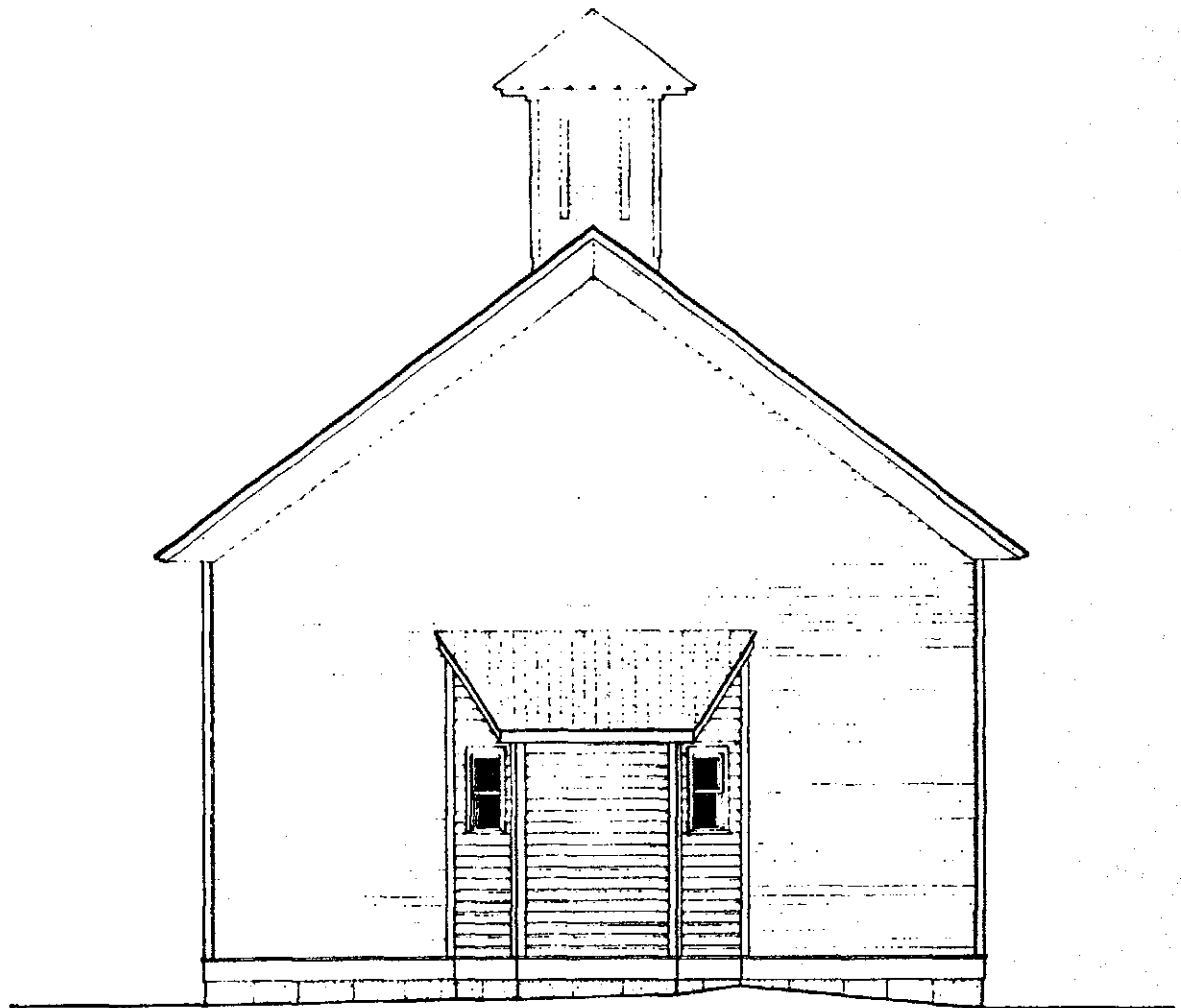
Southeast elevation of the Roanoke Methodist Protestant Church.



SOUTHWEST ELEVATION



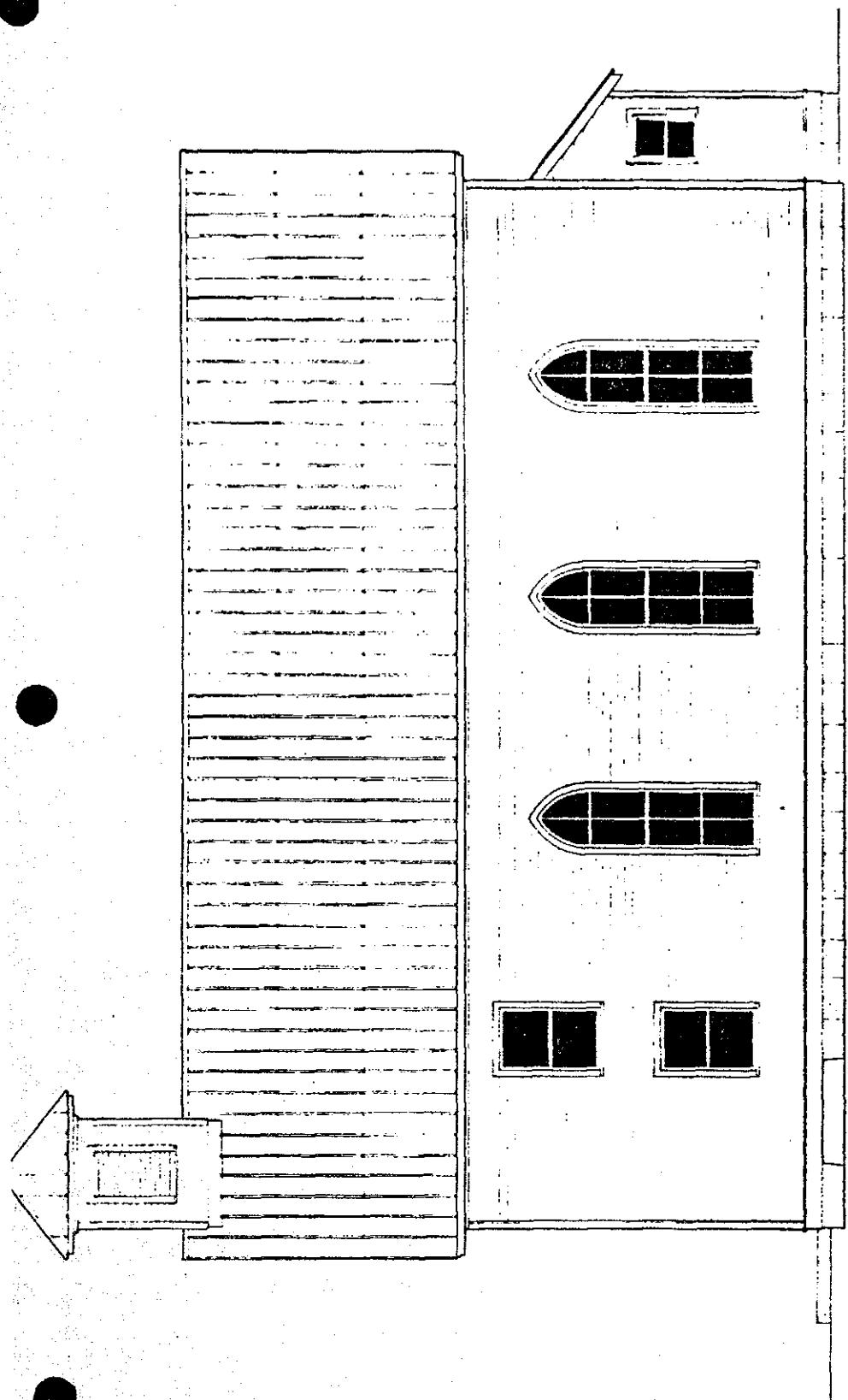
Southwest elevation of the Roanoke Methodist Protestant Church.



NORTHWEST ELEVATION

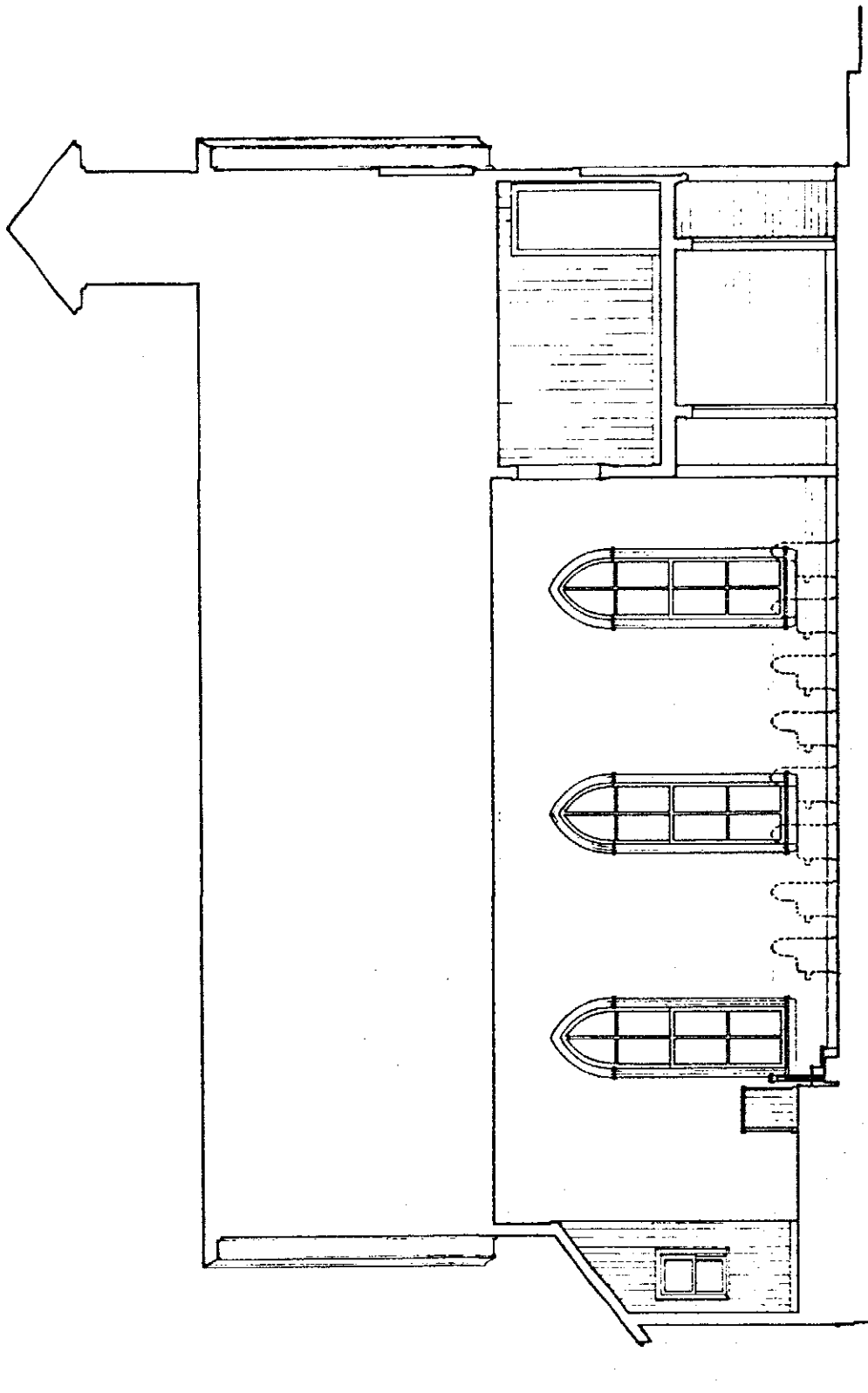


Northwest elevation of the Roanoke Methodist Protestant Church.



NORTHEAST ELEVATION  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

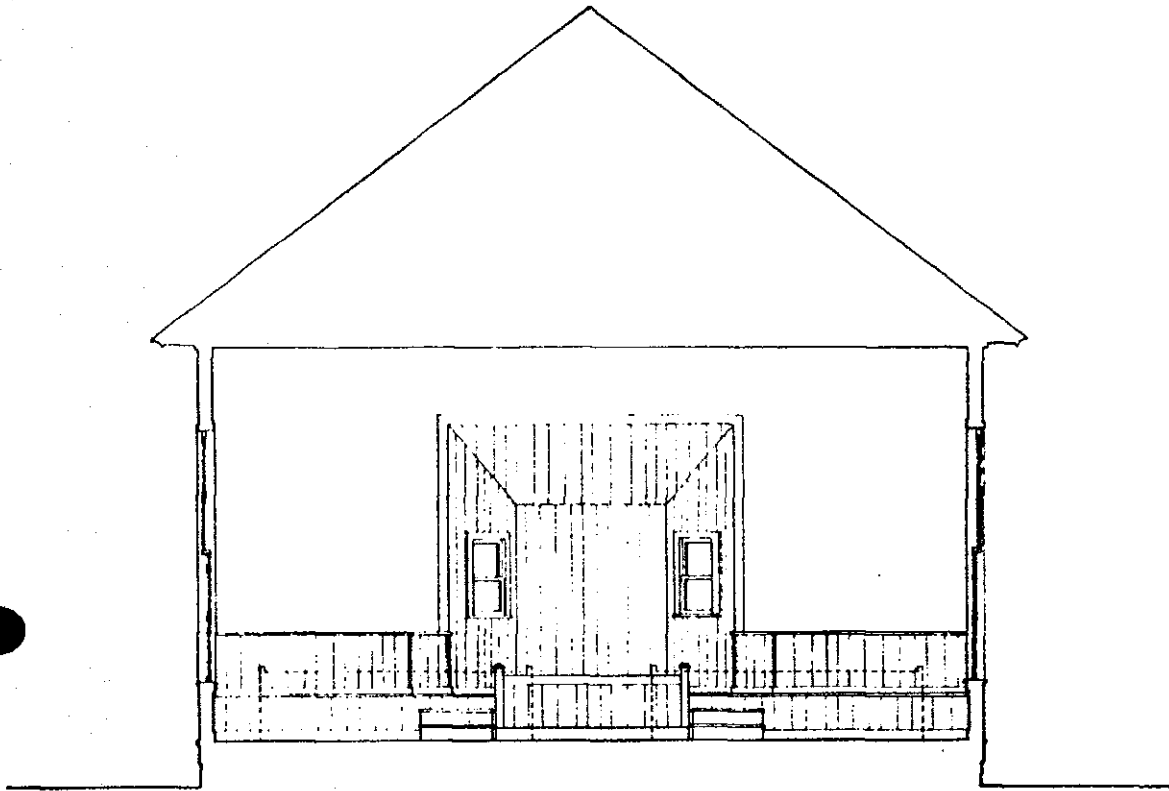
Northeast elevation of the Roanoke Methodist Protestant Church.



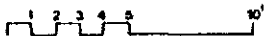
SECTION A-A



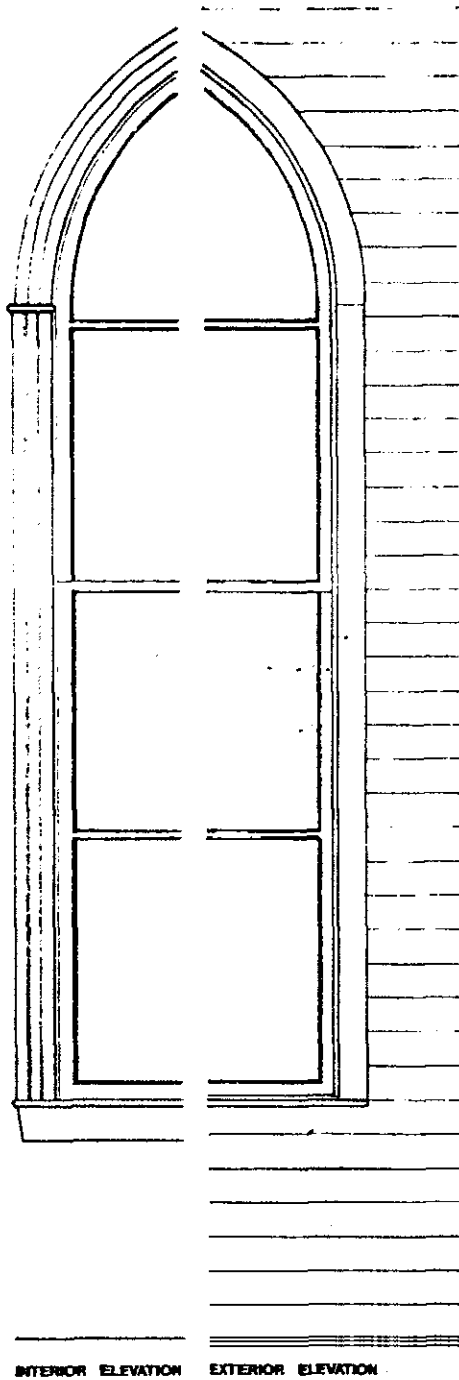
Longitudinal section (A-A) through the Roanoke Methodist Protestant Church.



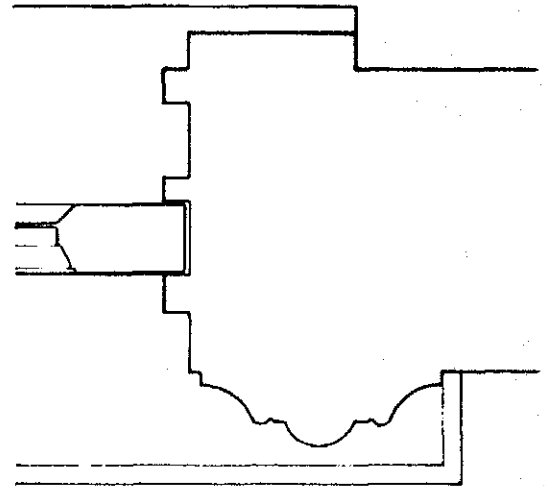
SECTION B-B



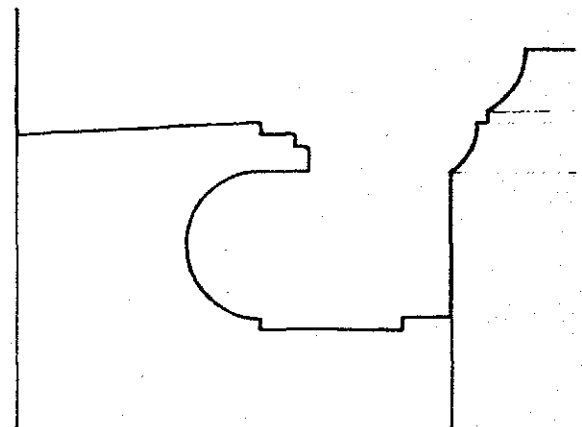
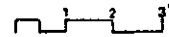
Transverse section (B-B) through the Roanoke Methodist Protestant Church.



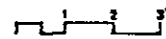
TYPICAL LANCET WINDOW



LANCET WINDOW MOLDING



ENTRY PORCH LINTEL



Typical architectural details in the Roanoke Methodist Protestant Church.